

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ACDA-05 EB-07 OMB-01 AID-05

IGA-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 /068 W

----- 128095

P 061147Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECDEF WASHDC /ASD:ISA(SA)/DSAA(TS)

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6411

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER /ECJ4/7-SAME

INFO DA WASHDC /DALO-ILM

CDR AMC ALEX VA /AMCIL-O/MA

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4329

E.O. 11652: GDS 1981

TAGS: MASS/JO

SUBJECT: RMA MODERNIZATION PROGRAM (U)

REF: A. MUSLO 750355, 291649Z AUG 75 (C)

B. DALO-ILM 041510Z APR 75 (C) (NOTAL)

C. SECSTATE 193821, 151403Z AUG 75 (C) (NOTAL)

1. (C) IMPETUS GIVEN BY KING TO IMPLEMENTATION PHASE OF MOD PROG IS NOW PRODUCING VISIBLE EFFECTS. RECENT MEETINGS WITH SENIOR FAR OFFICERS REVEAL THAT PREVIOUS IDEA OF WAITING FOR COMPLETE EQUIPMENT FILL PRIOR TO CONSTITUTING UNITS HAS BEEN DISCARDED. ACTIVE PLANING IS NOW UNDERWAY WITH A VIEW TO INTEGRATING NEW EQUIPMENT INTO EXISTING FORMATIONS ON A PHASED BASIS. THIS IS A MUCH MORE WORKABLE APPROACH. FURTHER-MORE, A SENSE OF URGENCY NOT FORMERLY EVIDENT IS NOW APPARENT.

2. (C) IN CONSONANCE WITH GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF TRAINING SURVEY TEAM (COL BROWN ET AL, FAR IS EVIDENCING A FLEXIBILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO IMPROVISE IN ESTABLISHING MOBILE, U.S. EQUIPPED RRF. THERE IS NOW, FOR EXAMPLE, GENUINE DESIRE TO DEPLOY M-48A3'S FROM CASA IN NEAR FUTURE. REF A ADDRESSES
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ISSUE OF SHORT TERM LOAN OF HET'S TO EFFECT THIS.

3. (C) GOM HAS IDENTIFIED THE 155MM SP HOWITZER AS ONE MAJOR ITEM CRITICAL TO THE INITIAL STAGE OF FORCE DEVELOPMENT. APPRECIATING THAT U.S. ARMY HAS MADE MAXIMUM EFFORT TO OPTIMIZE DELIVERY LEAD TIME ON M109A1B'S ORDERED ON FMS CASE UGC, GOM NOW REQUESTS TEMPORARY LOAN OF 18 EA 155MM SP HOWITZERS WITH RELATED SURVEY AND FIRE DIRECTION EQUIPMENT FOR TRAINING PURPOSES PENDING RECEIPT OF INITIAL DELIVERIES ON CASE UGC. GOM UNDERSTANDS THAT MOROCCO WOULD BEAR TRANSPORTATION CHARGES AND ANY EXPENSES INCURRED IN RESTORING GUNS TO PRE-LOAN CONDITION. REQUEST LOA FOR LOAN OF THIS EQUIPMENT BE PREPARED AND FORWARDED TO MUSLO FOR TRANSMITTAL TO GOM.

4. (C) REF B PROVIDES EXPEDITED DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR TO-* 2 LAUNCHERS WITH BASIC LOAD OF MISSILES IN CY 75 AND 4 IN AUG 76. DUE TO TRAINING PROBLEMS OCCASIONED BY DIFFICULTY IN IDENTIFYING FAR PERSONNEL WITH REQUISITE ENGLISH LANGUAGE QUALIFICATIONS, PERSONNEL QUALIFIED TO MAINTAIN AND SUPPORT TOW AND DRAGON SYSTEMS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE MAY 76. DELIVERY OF 2 EA TOW LAUNCHERS DURING CY 75 WOULD THEREFORE BE INAPPROPRIATE. GOM, HOWEVER, REQUESTS EXPEDITED DELIVERY OF 12 TOW LAUNCHERS WITH BASIC LOADS OF MISSILES DURING 4TH QTR FY76. GOM ALSO REQUESTS EXPEDITED DELIVERY OF 240 DRAGON MISSILES DURING 4TH QTR FY 76.

5. (C) ADDITIONALLY, GOM HAS AGAIN REQUESTED AN LOA FOR FMS PURCHASE OF 500 REDEYE MISSILES. IT IS PROBABLE THAT THIS RENEWED DESIRE FOR REDEYE WAS TRIGGERED BY RECENT DOD WILLINGNESS TO SELL SYSTEM TO JORDAN. IN ANY EVENT, IN VIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS SINCE INITIAL REQUEST OF JUL 74 WAS NOT FAVORABLY CONSIDERED, REQUEST YOU REEVALUATE ADVISABILITY OF OFFERING REDEYE TO MOROCCO.

6. (C) MOROCCAN DEFENSE OFFICIALS WERE EXTREMELY GRATIFIED BY RECENT REDUCTION IN LEAD TIMES FOR 106MM ROCKET RIFLE AND ARE VERY MINDFUL OF U.S. EFFORTS IN THEIR BEHALF. ON THE BASIS OF PRESENT GOM COMMITMENT TO THE MOD PROG, I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE MUCH IN OUR INTEREST TO HONOR THEIR PRESENT REQUEST TO THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EXTENT.
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